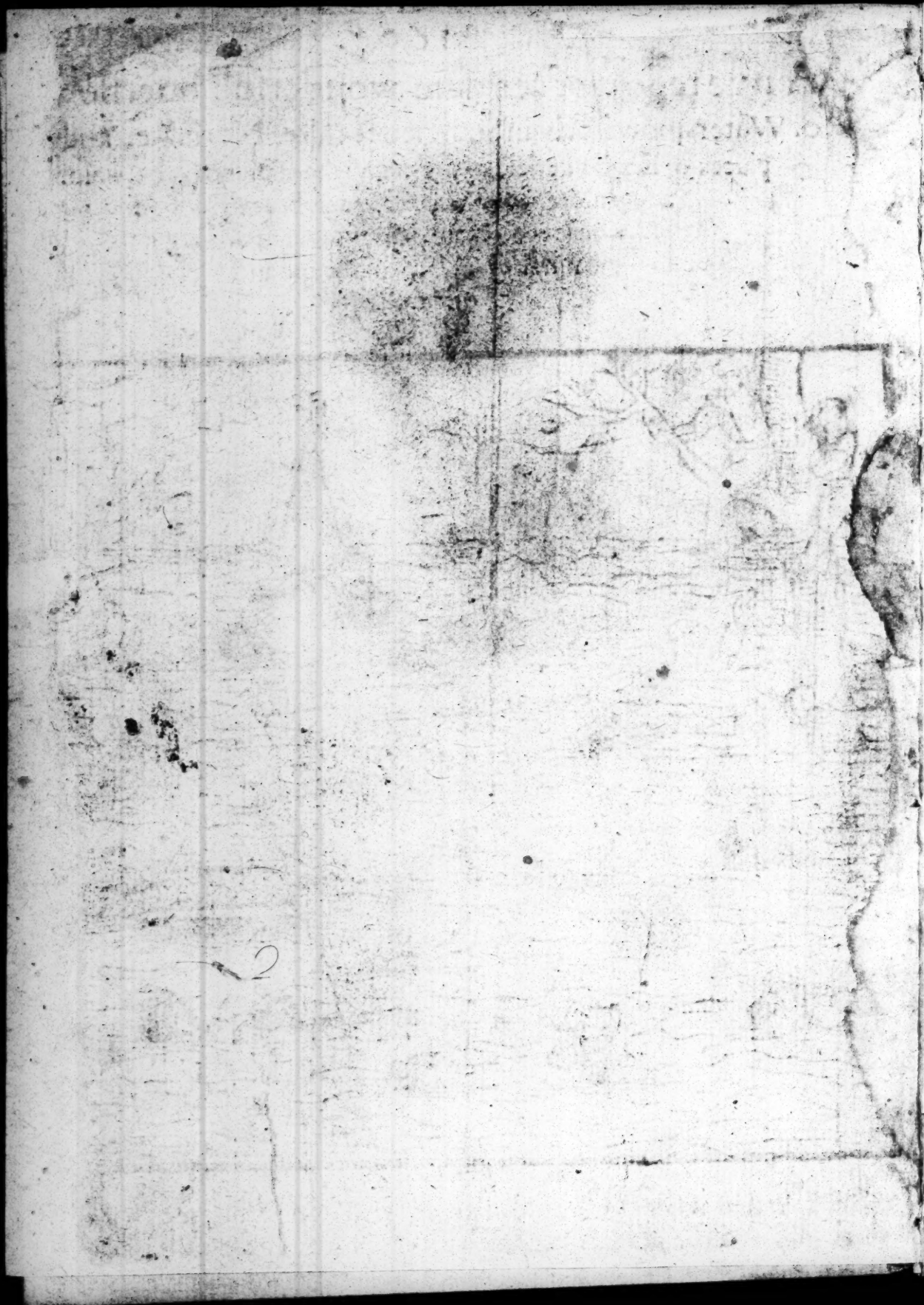


1607.

A true report of certaine wonderfull overflow
of Waters, now lately in Summer setshire, Norfolk, and
places of England: destroying many thousands of men, women
and children, overthrowing and bearing downe
whole townes and villages, and drowning
innumerable sheepe and
cattell.



Printed at London by W. I. for Edward White and are to be sold
at the signe of the Gunne at the North doore of Paules.





To the Reader.



Eader I haue to these late accidents (whereby some parts of this our kingdom haue bin punnished) added some other, that happened in the yeare 1570. to the intent that by comparing the one with the other, Gods Iustice and mercy, may both be seene: If those Waters of his wrathe (powred downe then,) weare more cruell then these. It is a signe (and a comfort let it bee vnto vs) that he doth but stil threaten & shake the rod, for no doubt but our faults at this time are as great as in those daies: If this affliction laide vppon our Countrey now, bee sharper than that before, make vse of it: tremble, be fore-warned, Amend, least a more feareful punishment, and a longer whip of correction draw blood of vs.

Farewell.

01 Feb 1968



1. The first step is to identify the problem or question that needs to be answered. This involves understanding the context and the specific requirements of the task.

1. The first part of the document is a letter from the President of the United States to the Congress, dated January 3, 1862. It is a long and detailed letter, covering many topics, including the state of the Union, the progress of the war, and the administration of the government. It is a very important document, as it provides a clear and concise summary of the President's views on the current state of the country and the future of the Union.

114



Newes out of Sum- mersetshire.

(. . .)



Albeit that these swellinges by and
ouerflowings of waters p^rceede
from naturall causes, yet are they
the very diseases and monstroug
byrthes of nature, sent into the
world to terrifie it, and to put it
in mind, y^e the great God, (who holdeth stormes
in the prison of the Cloudes at his pleasure, and
can enlarge them to breed disorder on the Earth
when he growes angry) can aswell now drowne
all mankind as he did at the first: But y^e by these
gentle warnings, he would rather haue vs come
vnto him, and flye from the points of more dead-
ly Arrowes of vengeance, than bitterly to perish.
Hee fills out the measures of his chastisement ac-
cording to the quality and proportion of our of-
fences: for as the waters transgresse and break
their boundes, to the destruction of the fruites of
the earth and to the taking away of the liues of
man and beast,

Of Flouds

So haue we that should bee subiects to the Almighty King, and (by our oath of Christianity) ought and are bound to paye fealty & allegiance to our Lord and Master, gone beyond the bankes and limits of all obedience, to þ taking away of his loue, without which we cannot liue, and to the vnrecoverable undoing of our owne selues.

Sinne ouerflowes our soules: the Seas of all strange impieties haue rusht in vppon vs: we are covered with the waues of abomination and vncleannes: we are drowned in the black puddles of hellish iniquity: wee swim vp to the throates, nay even aboue the chins in Couetousnes, in extortion, in sensuality, in enuy one against þ other, in contempt of our Maiestates, in neglect of our lawes, and in violation of those diuine statutes, the breach of which is a condemnation to death and that Death, and everlasting liuing in Hels fire.

Many a time haue we bin summoned to an account for these riotous abuses & misspending the talents put into our hands, we haue shifted it off with counterfet sorrow for what wee haue done, and with promises to become faithfull seruants, and new men; yet grow we worse at noone, than we were at þ suns rising, and at his going down he blusheth to behold vs in our naughtines. To a strict & strange audite therfore doth God not only cal some of our countrymen now on þ soden) but also to afright vs the more to make vs looke

in England

look about, doth he strike our Cattle with diseases: he takes away the livers of our beasts fit for labor: he destroys the Corne-fields, & threatens vs with famine: he undermines our houses with tempests, to make vs feare a desolation. Read therefore, and reade with trembling these his late dreadfull iudgments, mocke not our selues with vaine hopes, but know that if earthly fathers may be drawne away to forget their owne children, our heavenly father may by the vilenes of our soules be drawne to shake off his owne people. Listen then how he menaceth, and stand amazed at the wonders of his wrath.

In January last (towards the end of the moneth,) the sea at a flowing wate meeting with Land-floudes, strove so violently together, that bearing downe all thinges y^e where builded to withstand and hinder the force of them, the bankes were eaten through and a rupture made into Somerset-shire. No sooner was this furious invader entred, but he got by hie into the Land, and encountering with the river Seuern, they both boild in such pride that many Miles, (to the quantity of xx. in length, and 4. or 5. at least in bredth) were in a short time swallowed by in this torrent. This Inundation began in the morning, & within few houres after, covered the face of y^e earth thereabouts (that lay within the distance before named) to the deapth of xi. or xii. foot in some places, in others more. The daunger y^e this terrible tempest brought wth it, wrought much

Of Floods

much fear in the hartes of all that stood within the reach of it, but p[er]siden and strange cruelty of it, bred the greater terror and amazement. Men that were going to the r[ati]onall labours were compelled (seeing so dreadfull an enemy approaching) to flie backe to their houses, yett before they could enter, death stood at the doores ready to receiue them. In a short tyme did whole villages stand like Islands (compassed rounde with waters) and in a more short tyme were those Islands undiscoverable, and no where to be found. The tops of trees and houses onely appeared (especially there where the Countrey lay low,) as if at the beginning of the world townes had been builte in the bottome of the Sea, and that people had plaid the husbandmen vnder the waters.

Who would not haue thoght this had bin a second Deluge! for (at one time these inhabited places were suncke cleane out of sight. Hunsfelde (a Market Towne in the sayde Shire) was quite drowned. Grantham a village utterly over-flowne. Kenhouse another village couered all ouer. Kingston a thyrd village likewise lies buried in salte water. So (besides other smal cottages standing in valleys) is Brian Downe a Village quite consumed. Adde vnto these peopled places, the losse of Marches, Corne-feldes, Pastures, M[ar]shes, and so forth, more than can be numbred: the misery of it no Man can Ex-
p[re]sse.

in England.

In this cruell warres betwene the Land and the Sea, many Men, women, and Children, lost their liues: to saue which, some climbed vpp to the tops of the houses, but the rage of the mercurial tide grew so strong, & in many yea most of the Villages afozenamed, the foundations of the buildings being washed away, the whole frame fell down, and they dyed in the waters: Others got by into trees, but the trees had their rootes vnfastened by the selfe-same destroyer, that disloynted barnes and houses, and their last refuge was patiently to die.

A lamentable spectacle was it, to beholde whole herds of Cattle, struggling for life with the flouds, Oxen in great numbers were carped away with the streame, and looked like so many whales in the Sea: their bellowing made a noise in the water as if it had bin a tempest, and that the Sea had roared. The flocks of Sheep that are utterly destroyed by this Land-wrache are innumerable, none knowes the losse for the present but the owners of them: But the whole land will I feare feelee the smart.

A number of most strange shapes of daunger did this monstrous byrth of waters bring forth: of which (for the rarenes) I will set downe some, and none but those that are true. There was a poore Man (a Householder) dwelling in one of the Villages afozenamed, heaing seauen Children: who (in this generall perill) not knowing howe to bestirre himselfe, was desirous to saue so much of his goods as possibly hee could: But the violence of the streame multiplying moze and moze

Of Floods.

vpon him: It came into his minde to prouide rather for his Children: his goodes therefore hee left to the mercy of that which hath no mercy, and louing one of his Children aboue all the rest, bys feare vane him to run about for the safety of that onely. At last the danger that had rounde about (and with n doores) set vpon him and his family, was so great, that hee could neither defend that his dearest Childe, nor the rest, but hauing much ado to get life for himselfe, hee left them and bys whole household perishing in the torrent, he getting vp to the top of the house, and so escaping. An infant likewise was found swimming in a Cradle, some mile or two from place where it was knowne to be kept, and so was preserved, for the Cradle was not of wicker as ours are here, but of strong thicke bozdes, closely ioynted together, & that saved the infants life. The ricks of pease in diuers places being undermined at the bottomes, were lifted vp mainly from the ground, and swum vp & downe in the whole bulke, amongst which a company of Hogs, and Pigs, being feeding vpon one of the ricks, and perceiuing it to go away more & more from the, they got vp to y top, and there maintained the in eating. Nay which is more strange, conies in great numbers being driuen out of their borrowes by the tyde, were seene to sit for safety on the backs of sheepe, as they swom vp & down and at last were driuen in with them.

A poore shepheard likewise being in the fielde, some of his sheepe were strayed from the rest, when the waters began to come in vpon the Countrey, which he perceiuing, ran with all speede to fetch them,

in England.

them in, hoping to saue al: but before he had done, hauing much ado to saue himselfe, he was fayne to leaue them, and with his bag & bolle, to climb vp into a tree: there hee saw the confusion of hys whole flock: they swam too and fro bleating for helpe, he satte tearing his haire and beating his brests: crying mainly out but could not saue the: when they were allaine before his eyes, he wept then more bitterly to thinke vpon his owne tragedy which he saw was now to be acted: he feared drowning, yet hee feared staruing more then drowning: he had some victuals with him in the tree: but he knew not how long this siege of waters would keepe him in that rotten bulwarke. At length (when he was almost pincht to Death with cold) hee espyed a boat which the Country had sent out to saue others, to that he called, and in that recovered life.

Bristow.



Now bend your eyes vpon the Citty of Bristowe, and there beholde as much cause of lamentation as in any place of this realme, that hath tasted of the like misery. In the selfe same Moneth of Ianuary, and much about þe very day, did an arm of the North seas break in (at a spring tide) which overflowed not onely the banckes, but almost all the whole Country round about.

All Brent-Marsh is couered ouer: betweene

Of Flouds.

Barstable and Bristow the Sea swelled vp as hye as Bridgewater. All the low grounds are not onely hidden in this strange deluge, but in danger (by the opinion of men) to be utterly lost. Whole houses were removed from the ground where they stood, and float vp and downe like shippes (halfe sunke.)

Their Corne-mowes and hay-mowes are carryed away with the streame and can neuer be recovered. All theyr fat Oxen that could not swim are drowned: with such a forcible assault did the waters set vpon the inhabitants, that they who were in theyr houses, and thought themselves safe, could hardly make way for theyr owne liues: by which meanes a number both of men, women, and children perished: theyr deade bodie's floate hourly aboue-water, and are continuallye taken vpper: It cannot yet be knowne, howe many haue fell in this Tempest of Gods fearful iudgement.

Most of the goodes both of Cittizens heere in London that were sent thither, and of the inhabitants dwelling there, as also the Rugs & such other commodity which came from Irelande, to the fayze of Saint Paule, which was now to bee kepte there, are (to an infinite value, and to the danger of many a mans undoing) utterly spoiled and cast away. Goods in dry-fats, and whole packes of wares are dally taken vp, but past all recovery euer to bee good againe. This deluge hath covered this part of the country by the space of ten miles ou'r in length, at least vpper towards Bridgewater, Many thousands of pounds cannot make

in England.

make good the losse which the Countrey onely
hath heereby receiued. God graunt there ensue
no second misery vpon this, worse to our King-
dome, than this Plague of waters.

The miraculous deliury of a Gentleman from death
when it had round beset him in the midst
of the waters.

A Gentleman dwelling within foure miles of
the sea (betwixt Barstable & Bristow) walking
foorth one morning to view his groundes,
cast vpp his eyes toward the Sea-coast, and on
the sudden was struck into a strange amazemēt,
for he beheld an extraordinary swallowing vppe
of all the earth, that had wont to lye visible and
liuell to his sight: he coulde scarce tell certainly
whether he stood vpon the ground which he was
sure the day before was his owne: Hills, and ba-
lies, woods, and Meddowes seemed al to be ei-
ther remoued, or to be buried in the Sea: for the
waters a farre off stood to his iudgement many
yards aboue the earth: he tooke them at first for
Mountaines and heapes of clouds, but feare be-
ing driuen backe (with a courage and desire in
him to saue himselfe from this imminent daunger)
home comes hee with all speede that he coulde to
his owne dwelling: relates to his wife what hee
had seene, and the assured perill that was prepa-
ring to set vpon them, and (with all) Counsels
her and his whole family to bestirre themselves,
and to gette (with such prouision and Goodes as
they coulde easily conuay away) higher vppe in-

Of Flouds

to the Country, to some one of his friendes. All hands presently layd about them, (as if that enemies had bin marching to besidge the Towne) to trusse vp what they could and be gone.

And behold, how swift is mischief when God driues it before him to the punishment of the world: All were laboring to beare away some of the goods, but before their burdens could bee taken vp, they were compeld to leaue them, and to look about for their liues. The farbers which they had bound vp to saue from drowning, some of them were glad to leap vppon to escape drowning themselves.

The Gentleman with his Wife and Children got vp to the highest building of the house: there sat hee and they vppon two rafters, comforting one another in this misery, when their heartes within them were euen dead to themselves from all comfort: they now cared not for their wealth, so they might but go away with their liues: and yet euen that very desire of life, put him in mynde to preserve something, by which afterward they might liue, and that was a Booke of writings, wherein were certaine bonds, and all the euidences of his Landes: this Booke he got, with the hard aduenture of much daunger: he tyed it with cordes fast to a rafter, hoping what wacke sooner should overthrowe the rest of his substance, his mayne estate should bee found safe, and come to shore in that haue.

But alas in the midst of this sorrowfull gladnesse, the Sea fell with such violence vpon the house, that

in England

it boze abbay the vvhole building, rent it in the middol. from top to bottom; they that could not get vp to the highest roomes; were put to a double death, Drowning and bayingning. In this storme the Husband and Wife lost one another: the Childzen and Parents were parted: the Gentleman in this whyle-wind of waues, being forced from his hold, got to a beame, sat vpon that, and against his will rode post some thze or foure Miles, till at length encountring with the side of a hill, (of which lighting place hee was sayfull) there he crept vp, and holding notwithstanding his safety still in his hand: there sat he inuironed with death, miserably powring out teares to increase y^e waters, which were already too abundant: and to make him desperate in his sorowes, the tirranous streame presented vnto him the Tragedy of his deere Wife, and deere childzen, She, th^y, and his Seruants were whorried to their deaths by the torrent b^e fore his face, & drowned doubly, in his teares, and in the waues. Yet because he should not be altogether the onely haue of misfortune in this Sea-fight, nor be more triumphed ouer then others that fell in the battaile. At length (a little to fetch life into him which was vpon departing) he saved his Boord of writings (bound as they were to the rafter) come floating towards him: that he ventured once againe to saue, and did so, and in the end most miraculously came off liue with his owne life.

Of

Of Flouds

*Of another Gentleman, that hauing a
voyage to make on horse-backe, car-
ried it riding after a strange
manner.*

There was another Gentlemanne in the same Countrey likewise, who being newlie married, determined one morning to take his Gelding, and to ride forth to a Towne not many miles distant from his owne dwelling, there to bee merrie: his horse for that purpose stood readie saddled and bridled, he himselfe had drawne on one of his Boots, but before he could fit his Legge to the other, the winde came about, the point of his compasse was changed, his voyage by Lande was to bee made by Water, or else not at al. For the Sea had so be- gynt the house, broken in, lifted of the doores from their hinges, ran vpp into all the Chambers, and with so dreadful a noyse tooke possession of euerie Roome, that he y was at this while but half a horse- man, trusted more to his owne legges than to the swiftnes of his Gelding.

Uppe therefore he mounts to the very top of all the house, the waters pursued him thither, which he perceluing, got astride ouer the Ridge and there re- solved to saue his life, but Neptune belike purposing to try how wel he could ride, cut of the maine buil- ding by the middle, leauing the vpper part swim- ming like a Flemmish boy in foulle weather.

The Gentleman beeing driuen to goe what pace that would carry him which hee sate vppon, helde
fast

in England.

fast by the Tiles, and such things as he could best lay hold on, and in this foule wether, came he at length (neither on Horsebacke, nor on foote, nor in a Vessel fit for the water) to the very Town, where in the morning he meant to take vpp his Inne.

A number of these strange Tragi-comicall Scenes haue bin acted vpon this large Stage of waters: It would swell into a Vast Volume to Chronicle them all: let these therefore which you haue deliuered vnto you, bee sufficient, as a tast of Gods Judgements: these are enough to make you know he is angry, let them likewise be enough to make vs study how to allay his anger.

Adde vnto these, the ouerflowings in Herefordshire, Gloucester Shire, and in diuerse Shires in Wales, bordering vppon the Sea, where many liues haue beene lost, both of Man and Beast: of all which when the particulars are truely knowne, they shall bee truely published to our Country: till then make vse of these.

Norfolke.

NOz let other Countries insult ouer this: as if their robes of seeming purity (invented by the Deuill and his Journey-men) were a defence oz Aarmor of prooofe against the Judgements of Heauen: they stand all within distance, this late and fearefull Inundation of water makes it apparant.

Of Flouds.

For iust the same month of the yeare, weeke of the month, and almost day of the same weeke, In the Countrey of Norfolk not far from Kings Lyn, in a place called March-land, happened accidents, though not altogether so violent and mortall as those in Summe. setshure, yet accompanied with much damage, and no little danger. About the xx. of this present month of January Anno. Dom. 1607. The excee viol. nce of winter, being (as they by many rurall observations had quoted) almost spent: The Marishes & fens, by reason of the yeares temperaturre, somewhat dry, and more forward then in other yeares, every man to his ability, layd out what Money hee could spare vppon Heyfoss, and such other young wares, emptying their purses of Crownes to cram the fens with Cattell, little thinking the water would haue made one, and like a new Broome haue swept all cleane, as shortly it did.

The fens thus stozed with Cattell, Horse, and Bullocks, for it is not vnknowne what ha-uocke the rot had made with Sheepe in the beginning of winter, which dyed in such abundance, that euen Dogges grewe wary of them.

The rot hauing begun, and in a manner made an end of Sheep, in comes the water as a second and more violent invader, and sweeps away what the rot had left behind.

It hapned vpon a night, for when is danger more wakefull then when prenention sleeps, and
not

in England.

not so much as dreames of his surp, A couple of Horse-courfers, or to attire them in a courser litter, Horse-thalers, knowing the night, a gobone to cloke their villany, came sneaking into the marish with an intent to make a Market of what was none of their owne. And draue so many of the Cattell as they thought fit by into the higher grounds: but in the meane time they were hotly pursued with a fearefull Hu and cry, not of Constables, but swifter followers (Wiz:) the water, which hauing brysk n out at an old breach, in a quarter of an houre, or a very little portion of time, overflowed the Marsh, and that with such vniuersited violence, y they were enforced to leaue their pray (which such fellows seldome vse to doe) fal to prayer, and to take them to their heels, and of all the Cattell in that Marsh, (being very many in number) few or none were preserued, but those which they had fetched by with an intent to steale: for being overtaken, or rather outrunne by the swiftnesse of the water, they were dzyuen some into Creeks, some into Busbes, and some vpon little Hillocks, and so either lost, dzyuen away with the water, or in conclusion drowned.

The two good fellowes (against their wills made good) seeing what present daunger, the water brought in with it, poasted to the Towne whether the water (had they not made the more hast) had brought the men before them: raysed the Sexton, got the Keyes of the Church Dooze,

Of Flouds.

and (as the custome in such Daungers) Jangled the Belles, and with a fearefull outcry, raised the secure Inhabitanter: who imagining some House to be on fire, rose vpper distractedly in their Shirtes, crying out Water, Water: of which Element (they were no sooner vp, but they perceiued they had too much: Yet were they still various in there opinions, all fearing, yet none knowing truely what to feare: some got by to the steeple, many thinking their had bin there, got into the vpper roomes of their Houses, shutting their saferies out, by locking themselves in. Some thinking it had bin but a slight overflowing of a spring tyde, laught at the rest.

The truth once knowne, it was no neede to byd them make hast: to expresse how amazedly Men ranne vp and downe, betwixt sleepe and wake, asking what newes, and receiuing no other answer but what newes was strange. In a word, in this danger, euery man layed first hands of what he loued best, some made away with his wife, some his Children, some careles both of wife & Children, hurried away his goods. He that hadde seene this trouble some night, woe he would haue thought vpon the miserable night of Troy, Here waded one vp to the middle, loaded with wealth, when noting howe the water increased, and calling to minde his helpless Children, with a sigh as loath to part from, what he so deere had loued, he throwes it downe, rung to Bedde, wakens his wife, and from her sides snatches

in England.

snatches the sleeping infants. Here comes a Husband with his Wife on his backe, and under either arme an Infant. The Son carries the father, the Brother the Sister, the Daughter the Mother, whilst the vnnmercifull Conquerour breakes downe the Walles of the Houses, taking pittie neither of aged nor Sere, finds some at play, some asleepe in Chayres, many in their beds, that neuer dreamed of misfortune till the water waked them.

Not to stand long, the water gaue them but very short warning, yet like a mercifull Conquerour, hauing taken the towne, it gaue them their liues, at least all such as were willing to leaue their goodgs. Some couetous to haue all, lost all, for struing to saue their goodes, they loste theyr liues.

In this night-massacre some few were drowned but their true names and certaine number, is not yet directly knowne. Up to a hil some halfe myle from the Towne they hasted, where that night, or rather peece of a morning, they reposed themselves.

The next day they might behold their houses wading by to the middles in water, some calling for Boates out at windowes, and from the steeples toppe, some swimming bypon planks, some bypon fetherbeds, whome as they possibly colde they releued. Horses that were tyed to the Wangers, at the Wangers were all drowned, such as were loose swimming by and
L 3
downe

Of Flouds

Downe, some recovered the land, some drowned in stryuing to recover it, whole barnes of Corne, which the covetous owners hoarded up in hope of a dearth, the water discovered & brought forth, Household-stuffe which y^e night before they packt out of the Houses in hope to haue saued, swam up and downe, with drowned people so confusedly mingled, as men could scarce distinguish their goods, nor know there friends.

Not did the water thus confine his tyranny, but ioyning with land waters that fell from the high groundes, It invaded two Villages more, but they hauing warning of the Approach, though not power to withstand it, had time to prevent it, by conuaying all or most part of their goods and Cattell, to the upland Villages, leaving onely the empty houses to the mercy of (that which is sayd to haue no mercy) the water.

Three Townes thus ouerflowed with water, could not but bring much losse to the poore inhabitants, yet to increase it, their corne fields (and not onely these) but all alongst the coast and low Marshes of that Country, to the number of many thousand Aers in severall places and fieldes are tooombd and buried in the huge graue of waters, that like a deuouring gulfe is neuer satisfied.

To this there is for the space of ten or twelue miles compasse Marshes and fens cleaue under water. The Cattell fed in those Marshes so sodainely taken, that had they not fled to a hill, some halfe mile in compas called Threuehill, feto

in England.

or none of them could haue scaped with life: yet being there, their safety is very dangerous: for this hill being very high and narrow in the top, is like a Rocke in the Sea, girdled about with water, so deepe that on foote neither Man nor Beast can passe it, and yet not deepe enough to beare a Boat, by reason of muddy and old shrubs & grow in it: by reason whereof the poore beasts haue fed the Hill so bare, as it affords neither grasse nor wood, and so do their hunger increase, and sustenance decrease, as they do eat the tops of Molehills, and the very earth it selfe, and with lamentable bellowing complaine, and as it were make moane to their owners, who being willing can by no meanes relieue them. He that should see this pitifull famine of Beasts, could not (except he were too lascall himselfe) but pity it.

At last they made shift by cutting a way through the Shrubs and Bushes, to bring a broad ferry Boat to the hill, to which the cattell would swim so thick, & they had much ado to keepe it from sinking, other seeing their fellowes in the Boate, would throw themselves into the water, and like people at a shipwacke, swarme so thicke about them, and offer such mournefull noyses, that pittied the fellowes to heare, the Boat being full, other stryuing to swim after them, being wracke, for want of sustenance, were drowned to the Boats side.

In pittie whereof, they concluded to fetch no more of, but in those Boats conuay Hay, a such like fodder, to the Hill, and there feed them: such

Of Floods

are not too farre spent and gone, by this meanes they hope to recover, (notwithstanding the best helpe they can apply) they die in great numbers: the sight is to be pittied, the losse greeued at, and the Iudgement to be trembled at. For with it, it brings this fearefull expect of a hard and sharpe dearthe for Corne and Cattle, the two cheefe hopes of bounty taken away, what else can we expect, but a fearefull Ruine, and an inevitable desolation, which God for his mercies sake avert.

You haue all this while been Spectators of others sad and tragitall euents which now (euen by our friends, kinsfolkes, and Countrymen) haue bin presented on the Theater of the world: It shall not be amisse to turne your faces, and to looke backe vpon the head of time that is gone from vs: weigh therefore those miseries that were measured out in the last Queens raign in the yeare 1570. with these in 1607. and you shall see our punishment greater, because our treason against God is more horrible.

in England

Bedford.



The 5th of October about midnight, the water ouer-floved so much, that men were faine to forsake their beds, and one woman drowned. Where also were lost a very great number of Sheepe, Oxen, Kine, Horse, and other Cattel. Amongst other there, one master Cartwright Gentleman, having his House inclosed round about the water came in so much, that a Cart being laden with Thornes did swim about the ground. He lost by the same floud, Sheep and other cattell, to the value of an hundred pound. The same Gentleman had a close gate by the high wayes side where the water ran ouer so extreame, that at the fall thereof it made such an hole, that it was fortie foot deepe, so that no man could passe that way without great danger. To the fylling vp of the said Hole, or Dyke, was call in by the men of the said Towne five and twenty loads of faggottes, and twenty loades of Horse-dung, wherch saide faggots and Horse-dung filled not vp the hole.

Also one maister Lee at the freers in Bedford having a fayre yarde, wherein was great store of Elm-trees, wherof threescore were Blowne Downe, with the rootes pulled cleane out of the ground. Also he had a close of Conies that were cleane destroyed.

in England.
In the County of
Norfolke.

THIS Sea brake in between Walsbitch, and
Walslockune, & at the Crosse keyes, Drow-
ning Tilney, and old Linne, Saint Mary
Tending, Saint Mary Tid, S. Johns Ham-
ple, Walton, and Walsoken, Linn y, Jermans,
and Stowes bynke all being within the space of
tenne Miles. At the Crosse keyes the good Man
of the Inne hadde built an house, with a stronge
Foundation topning unto another House being
olde, and not so stronge, wherein were certaine
Guests, and when the water came in so violently,
the good man of the house being in the stronger
House, called the Men out of the old house, and
they would haue gone downe the staires, but the
water was so high that they could not get downe
wherefoze they went backe againe, and brake an
hole into the other House, where they went tho-
rogh, and the last man was no sooner in: but the
olde house fell downe. The Walles of the Hou-
ses were broken downe, and the Horses y were
tyed at the Maunger, (which was made fast in
the grounde) did swim in the water, when the
Stable was cleane carryed away, untill the wa-
ters were asswaged, and were saued aliue, & the
people were constrained to get vpp to the highest
partes of the House, and to be carried away in
Boates.

in England

At **P**ermouth a great part of the **B**ridge was carryed away.

The house vpon the **H**auen, called the **H**annen-house, wherein was one **N**icholas **J**osselin, the **H**auen man, and his son, with all their tooles was carried into the **M**arshes vii. miles from the **H**auen, where it stood vpright, where they continued a long time without meat or **D**rinke.

Item at **F**ermans brig streete, was very much hurt done, by extreame flouds that were there.

Item, one **T**homas **S**mith of **P**ermouth lost a **S**hip, and vii. men and a **B**oy.

Item, at **N**ewarke by **P**ermouth were lost vii. **S**aile.

Item, a great **H**ulke loaden with **O**yle and **P**itch, was lost at **M**orry **S**and, and about **x**. men lost therein and saued by the **H**ulke **B**oate.

In the Bishoprike of Ely:

These **T**ownes and villages were overflowed, that is to say, **W**il-bich, **G**uyhorn, **P**arson, **D**ron, and **H**obshouse. **T**his **H**obshouse being an almes house (and the **W**ater breaking downe the **W**alles of it) the **W**inde blew the cloaths of from the bed of a poore **M**an and his **W**ife, they being acolde awaked, and sodainely slept out of his **B**ed to reach vpppe his **C**loaths, and slept vp to the **B**elly in **W**ater, and then he thinking himselfe to be in daunger (as he was indeede) and he knowing the best way to escape the daunger of the **W**ater, tooke his **W**ife in his necke and carried her away, and so were both saued.

in England.

Item in this which was a Garden, a Tenise playe
and a Bowling Alley walled about with brick which
was worth the twenty li. by yeare to the owner quite
destroyed by the water.

Lincolne Shire.

MAmby Chappel the whole towne was destroyed ex-
cept three houses.

A ship was driven upon an house the Sail-
ers thinking they had beene upon a Rocke commu-
ted themselves to God, and three of the Mariners
leapt out of the ship and chaunced to take holde on
the house toppe and so saved themselves: and the
wife of the same lying in childe bed did cline up in-
to the top of the house, was also saved by the Mar-
iners, her Husbande and Child being both drow-
ned.

Item the Church was wholly overthrown ex-
cept the steeple.

Between Boston and Newcastle there is a Sea
Hessalles, as small Ships, Craters, and such like,
looke upon the Coasts of Boston, Wimerston, Marsh-
chappell, Tetney, Stepey, Marcotts, Keibye, and
Grimby, where no Shippe can come in without a
Pilate, which were all laden with goods, Cattle and
cattle, with all the Salt coats, where the chiefe and
finest salt was made, were utterly destroyed, to the
utter undoing of many a man, and great lamenta-
tion both of old and young.

Of Floods

Wentford Bridge being very strong of old
Arches in length, had iii. of the Arches broken
and cleane carried away.

Master Smith, at the Swan, there had his
house (being iii. stories high,) on the wall onto
the third story, and the walles of the stable were
broken down, and the horses tyed to ry. Span-
ger, were all drowned.

Many men had great losse, as well of Sheepe
kine, Oxen, great Hares, Colts of the breed of
the great horses, and other cattel innumerable,
of which, the names of many of them shall here
follow.

Master Della lost xi. C. sheepe at Humby chapell.

In Summercote were lost v. c. sheepe & were
of the inhabitation there.

Item betweene Hummerston, & Gainsby were
lost xlii. sheepe of one maister Spencers, who
shepherd about mid day coming to his wife
and asked his Dinner, and she being more bold
then mannerly, said he should haue none of her
then he chaunced to looke toward the Marshes,
where the sheepe were, and saw the water break
in to the fl. & the sheepe wold be lost if they were
not brought from thence, said that he was not a
good shepherd & would not venture his life for
his sheepe, & so turne straight to drive them from
thence, both he and his sheepe were drowned, and
after the water being gon the man round about
standing bright in a ditch.

M. Chumbley, lost cc. xx. sheepe.

M. Di nock lost cccc. sheepe.

M. M. r. b. lo. cccc. sheepe.

M. Madison, lost a ship.

M.

Of Floods

William Althugh of Kelsey, Sir Hugh Althugh
M. Perin M. Fitz Williams of Haplethorp,
lost by estimation xx. M. of cattell one and other.

Broon was overflowed to the midway of the
height of the Church.

Steeping, was wholly carried away, wher was
a waine load of Willow tops, the body of y^e waine
with the willowes, carried one away, and the Ar-
iltree and wheeles, an other way.

Huntington Shyre.

In the Town of S. Beds, the water flooded in-
to the Towne in such abundance, that it ranne
throu the Town and the Chnrch, being in the
midst thereof, hauing about the churchyard a
Wicke wall, of two yeards hie, was so overflowed
that Boates were rowed ouer it without touch-
ing the same. Item a little from Huntington, were
iii. men riding vpon the Causey being then over-
flowed (the water on the causey being not deepe,
and thinking no danger therein) chanced to come
into a place where the water had gulled away the
Earth, and the Grauell, were carried away with
the water: and willowes growing on both sides
thoway, two of the caught hold on the willowes
and left their Horses, and saued themselves, and
the thurde chanced to catch a very little twig of a
willow betweene his fingers, hauing very little
hold, forsaking his Horse, which was carried a
great way from him, had much paine to keepe his
hold on the twigge, and hold his head aboue the
water, & his Horse returning with force against
the Curreme, came againe vnto him, and vnder
him.

Of Floods

him, by which meanes, he set his feete vppon him, and gat better hold of the Willow, and so saued himselfe, and the Horse was immediatly carried away that he neuer saw him after.

Kent.

AT Broom Hill, in Romney Marsh, foure Miles from Rye, the water came in so outrageously, that it brake downe the Marsh Walles, one maister Bary, being owner thereof, who lost by the same a thousand one hundred threescore and two of his sheep, and it is thought that the Marsh is neuer like to be gotten againe.

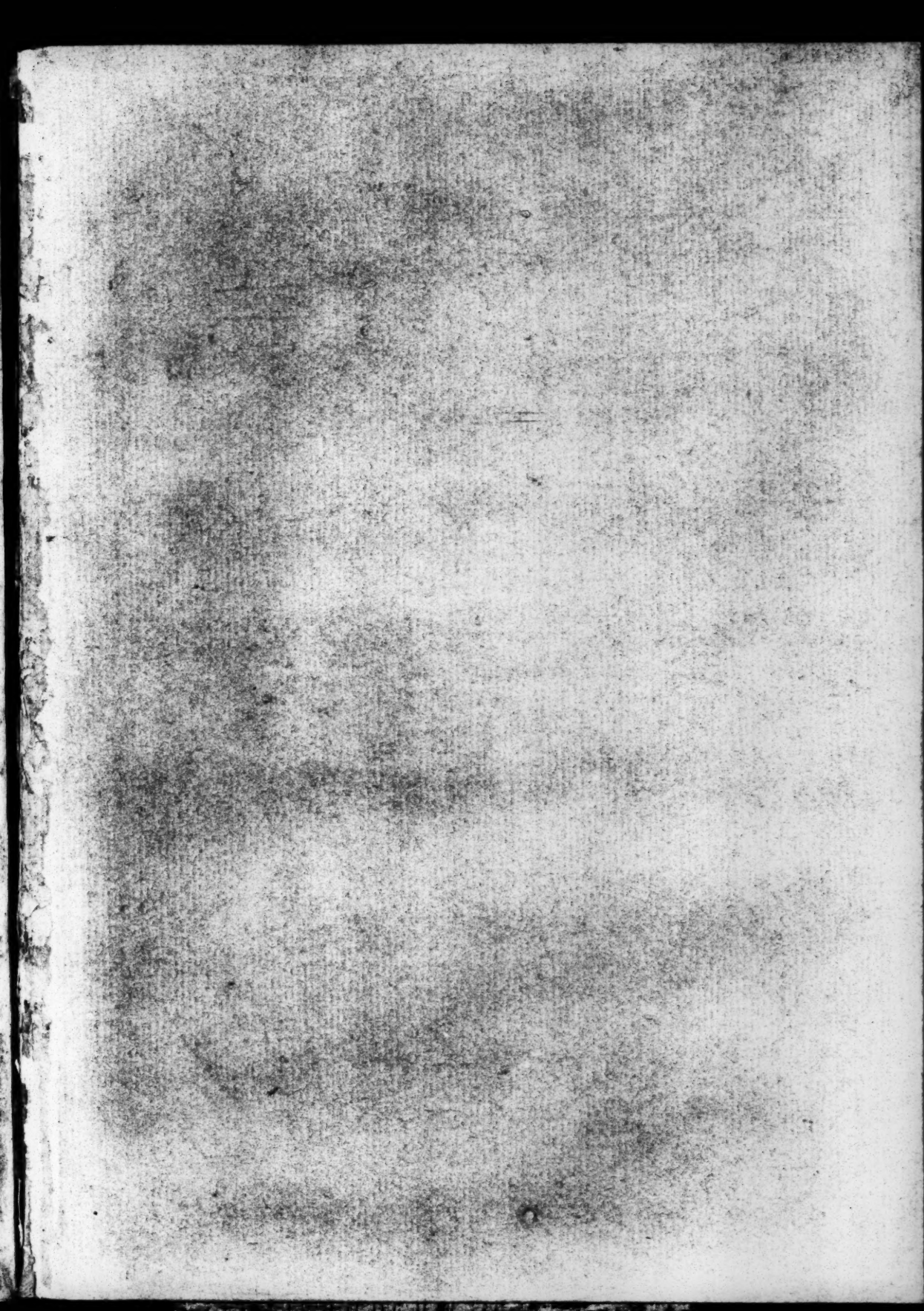
Item, at Brith breach, a Mariner riding by the Marshes, seeing two maids in the Marshes, perceiving the Waters breaking in so fast, that the Maides were not like to escape: rode vnto them, and one of them gat vp behind him, and the other tooke holde on the Horse tail: by that were both saued from drowning.

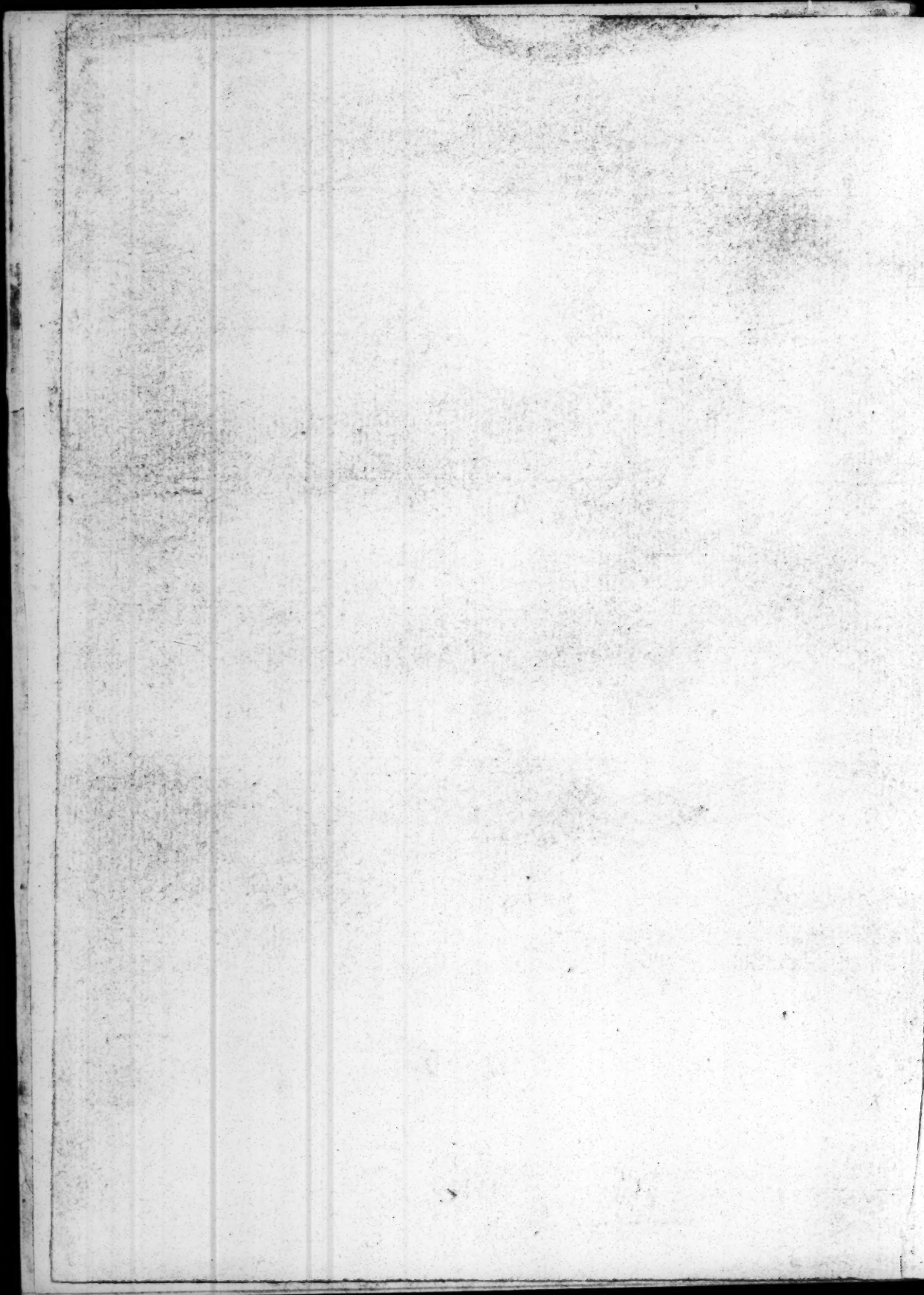
In the same Marsh, were drowned a great number of sheep.

Item, there in a Marsh land that was sowed, were two Boyes keeping Crows, in the after noone, saw the water breaking in so rashly, gas them vp into a Cart, that was not far from them, where they were faine to tarry untill the next tyde, which came in so boystrously, that it hadde like to ouerthrowe both the Cart and the Boyes, and the one of them being more stronger then the other, kept the other in his armes, where he with cold, wet, and feare, dyed, so that he was faine to let him fall from him into the water, when he perceived that he was past recovery,

The conclusion to the booke.

Thus Reader do thou behold the wounds
 of thy bleeding Country: the sinnes of thy
 sinners have stricke it to the hart, there
 can bee no better physician than thine owne a-
 mendment: maye the receiues to, r. toze, lead
 this Mother of thine (and of many Millions
 more) safe to the death. It is now ready
 this swelling of waters in the womb of this our
 beautifull kingdome: wch ingender a ze strange
 and more incurable disease and infect y^e whole
 Nation. The earth by this watering is a barren
 ground: famine instead of fruit is sent
 to grow in our fields: we must eat the bread
 of sorrow, and drinke our owne teares in stead of
 wine. Let us therefore therefore and the
 good zeale shew not only to dig up these sores
 of the Divine vengeance, that do now reigne up-
 on our heads, but those also which sleepe in the
 bosom of the clouds to drop down us in the depth of
 Gods Judgement hereafter. far well.



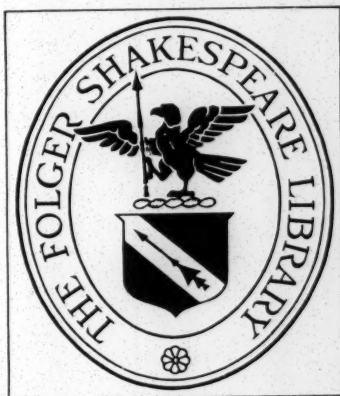


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